

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BELGRA 02473 271206Z
ACTION SS-25

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R 271113Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6021

S E C R E T BELGRADE 2473

EXDIS

FOR EUR VEST AND EA HOLBROOKE FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG PEPR KS YO US
SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV NORTH KOREAN INITIATIVE

REF: A) STATE 065759 B) STATE 065788

1. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR HAS TOLD ME THAT YUGOSLAVS HAVE BRIEFED HIM ON TITO'S PROPOSED NORTH KOREAN INITIATIVE. SPECIFICALLY, YUGOSLAVS HAVE SAID THAT AS A RESULT OF TITO'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER THE GOY WILL APPROACH THE NORTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT PROPOSING TRIPARTITE (U.S., ROK, NORTH KOREA) LOW LEVEL TALKS. THE YUGOSLAVS ALSO SAID THAT INITIATIVE HAS NOT YET BEEN TAKEN, BUT THAT IT WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BE THROUGH THE NORTH KOREAN MISSION IN BELGRADE.

2. ACCORDING TO THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR THE YUGOSLAVS GAVE THIS INFORMATION TO HIM AS A CONSEQUENCE OF HIS SPECIFIC REQUEST FOR ANYTHING ON WHAT MAY HAVE TRANSPIRED DURING THE TITO VISIT TO WASHINGTON ON THE SUBJECT OF NORTH KOREA. IN GIVING THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR THE ABOVE INFORMATION THE GOY EMPHASIZED ITS SENSITIVITY.

3. I PLED IGNORANCE; AMBASSADOR IN TURN SAID THAT HIS FOREIGN
SECRET

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OFFICE IS EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN ANY FURTHER INFORMATION THAT CAN BE DEVELOPED, AND THAT ON INSTRUCTIONS HE HAS ASKED THE YUGOSLAVS TO KEEP HIM INFORMED OF PROGRESS. WHILE I HESITATE TO GET INVOLVED IN U.S. RELATIONS WITH JAPAN, IT OCCURS TO ME THAT IF WE HAVE NOT ALREADY BRIEFED TOKYO, WE PROBABLY SHOULD DO SO SINCE THE YUGOSLAVS HAVE ALREADY LET THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG. I WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY DUMB HERE (A NOT TOO

DIFFICULT TASK) UNLESS THERE IS SOMETHING YOU WANT ME TO
PASS ON TO THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR.
EAGLEBURGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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